

§ 2526.20 Who is eligible to receive a full education award from the National Service Trust?

(a) *General.* To receive a full education award from the National Service Trust, an AmeriCorps participant must meet the eligibility requirements for, and successfully complete the required term of service in, an approved AmeriCorps position, including approved AmeriCorps positions in the VISTA program established by the Domestic Volunteer Service Act of 1973 (42 U.S.C. 4950 et. seq.) and the National Civilian Community Corps program established by the National and Community Service Act of 1990.

(b) *Conditions.* (1) For any term of service, a VISTA Volunteer who successfully completes his or her required term of service is only eligible to receive an education award from the National Service Trust if he or she does not accept the postservice stipend authorized under section 105(a)(1) of the Domestic Volunteer Service Act of 1973.

(2) For any term of service, a National Civilian Community Corps participant who successfully completes his or her required term of service is only eligible to receive an education award from the National Service Trust if he or she does not accept the alternative benefit described in section 158(g) of the National and Community Service Act of 1990.

§ 2526.30 Who is eligible to receive a full Stafford loan forgiveness award from the National Service Trust?

An individual who successfully completes a term of service in an approved AmeriCorps position in a Stafford Loan Forgiveness program is eligible to receive a full Stafford loan forgiveness award.

§ 2526.40 Is an AmeriCorps participant who does not complete a term of service eligible to receive a pro-rated education or Stafford loan forgiveness award?

(a) An individual who is released from a term of service for compelling personal circumstances, in accordance with § 2522.230(a) of this chapter, is eligible to receive a pro-rated education

or Stafford loan forgiveness award as determined according to § 2527.10(d)(1) of this chapter if—

(1) The individual completed at least fifteen percent of his or her required term of service prior to the release; and

(2) The program chooses to provide the individual with a pro-rated education or Stafford loan forgiveness award pursuant to § 2522.230(a)(1) of this chapter rather than permitting the individual to complete the remainder of the term of service after a temporary suspension of service pursuant to § 2522.230(a)(2) of this chapter.

(b) Programs are encouraged, when appropriate, to suspend service rather than offer prorated educational benefits.

(c) An individual who is released from a term of service for cause in accordance with § 2522.230(b) of this chapter is not eligible for any portion of an education or Stafford loan forgiveness award.

(d) A VISTA volunteer who does not complete a term of service as a result of the early closure of the project in which he or she is serving is eligible to receive a pro-rated education award as determined according to § 2527.10(d)(1) of this chapter.

§ 2526.50 What conditions must an individual who has received an education award meet in order to use that education award?

An individual who receives an education award is eligible to use the award if the individual—

(a) Has received a high school diploma or its equivalent, is enrolled at an institution of higher education, or has received a waiver based on an individual education assessment conducted by the AmeriCorps program in which the individual participated;

(b) Is a citizen, national, or permanent resident alien of the United States; and

(c) Is not eligible to use the education award under § 2526.40 as a result of a conviction of the possession or sale of a controlled substance.